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his views and statements, particularly in reference to Brazil, a high degree of authority.

The absence of footnotes, and the rather meagre list of books given in the prefaces as having been consulted for the preparation of the text, prevent the reviewer from tracing the origin of the copious errors and misconceptions running through all that relates to the period preceding the establishment of independence. Most of the mistakes seem to have arisen from the faulty methods employed in the process of compilation. The arrangement, furthermore, whereby the history of each country is traced separately from the beginning of its political existence to the present time, may be fairly practicable, perhaps, for the treatment of the four states above mentioned, but when used in connection with all the other republics, which have had so much in common since the outbreak of the War of Liberation, the result is confusion and repetition. Nor do the few wretched maps and frequently misplaced or inappropriate illustrations clarify the text.

Had Mr. Dawson confined himself to the field indicated by the title of his work, omitting the material that relates to the South American republics as colonies, these volumes would have been more useful. In view of the dearth of satisfactory accounts of South America in the nineteenth century, the portions of the work which deal with this period may be recommended to the student of the land of the *pronunciamento* and the tea-pot tempest—both of which characteristics, happily, have begun their retreat into the realm of other days as the South Americans slowly evolve “among themselves the best form of government for their special needs and conditions.”

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*A History of the Ancient World for High Schools and Academies.*

By GEORGE STEPHEN GOODSPEED, Professor of Ancient History in the University of Chicago. New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1904.—xvi, 483 pp.

This work is one of several attempts to meet the call of the Committee of Seven (*Study of History in Schools*, N. Y., 1899) for a text-book which should cover the whole field of ancient history to Charlemagne. The author is favorably known for his *History of the Babylonians and Assyrians*, and is at his best in the Oriental field. Though in the history of Greece and Rome he has made himself familiar with some topics, in general the constant recurrence of mistakes and of antiquated theories indicates a lack of careful acquaintance with the sources and

with the best modern authorities. Examples of errors are the statements that at Athens was a board of men "called the Council of the Naucraries" (p. 108); that "by 1500 B. C. a series of vigorous and advanced Greek communities, extending from Cyprus to Sicily, appeared" (p. 115); that Pericles was "a member of the noble family of the Alcmeonidae" (p. 139; he should have written Buzigae); that "Servius is also said to have divided the Roman territory into four parts" (p. 262); and that "the Latin League was said to have been reëstablished by Spurius Cassius in 493 B. C." (p. 269). Citations of the kind might be multiplied indefinitely. Many dates also are certainly wrong. Again, scholars no longer hold that Solon introduced the lot for the election of archons (p. 110), and are abandoning the view that Solon (*ibid.*) and Cleisthenes (p. 113, heading) made constitutions. The theory, too, that there was a chief *strategos*, which Goodspeed adopts (pp. 121, 139), has been amply disproved by Hauvette-Besnault, *Les Stratèges Athéniens* (Paris, 1885). The volume is marred further by obscurities which even an advanced student could hardly see through. But along with a multitude of defects it has many excellent passages; especially commendable is the treatment of the Periclean age.

Pedagogically the book suggests grave doubts. Does a work which is but a meager summary need in addition a preliminary survey and a summary of each period? In a chapter headed "The Greek Empires (500-200 B. C.)" will not the inclusion of events from 1500 to 500 B. C. confuse the young reader? Is there any advantage in the bare enumeration of names, as "Miletus founded Cyzicus, Sinope, Trapezus, Olbia" (p. 90), or "We are told of the ambitions and fall of Spurius Cassius, of Coriolanus, of Appius Herdonius and Appius Claudius and of Spurius Maelius" (p. 274)? It is doubtful, too, whether the reading has been judiciously selected.

Notwithstanding the want of clearness and method the work is perhaps better than the average text-book on the subject; and as to its inaccuracy, at least for the Græco-Roman period, no scholar can be expected to be equally at home in Oriental, classical and mediæval history. The Committee of Seven should bear their share of responsibility for the unsatisfactory performance of the difficult if not impossible task which they have set for the author of the text-book as well as for the pupils in ancient history. In time educators will probably discover that this headlong rush through six thousand years of history is not the best thing for the lowest class in high schools.

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